Manitoba

Annual Report 1987 - 88

Farm Lands Ownership Board

Manitoba

89-05004/

Agriculture

THE FARM LANDS OWNERSHIP BOARD
803 - 401 York Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 0P8

March 21, 1989

The Honourable Glen M. Findlay
Minister of Agriculture
165 Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 0V8

Dear Mr. Findlay:

I have the honour to submit The Annual Report of The Manitoba Farm Lands Ownership Board for the period April 1, 1987 to March 31, 1988.

Respectfully submitted,

Arnold Brown

Arnold Brown, Chairman
THE MANITOBA FARM LANDS OWNERSHIP BOARD

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MANITOBA FARM LANDS OWNERSHIP BOARD
FOR THE PERIOD APRIL 1, 1987 to MARCH 31, 1988

The Manitoba Farm Lands Ownership Board is a quasi-judicial and administrative body established under 6(1) of The Farm Lands Ownership Act. The Board is responsible for the administration and enforcement of The Farm Lands Ownership Act as well as certain additional duties and powers as specified in the Legislation.

BOARD MEMBERS

Frieda Krpan, Chairman	-	St. Laurent, Manitoba
Otto Fielman, Vice-Chairman	-	Rosenfeld, Manitoba
Pierre Lambert, Member	-	St. Malo, Manitoba
Jack Cox, Member	-	Minitonas, Manitoba
Charles Williams, Member	-	Souris, Manitoba

NOTE

A change in Board appointments occured August 24, 1988.

Arnold Brown, Chairman	-	Winkler, Manitoba
Garnet McDonald, Vice-Chairman	-	Virden, Manitoba
Lorne Radcliffe, Member	-	Cardale, Manitoba
Joan Lewis, Member	-	McAuley, Manitoba
Beverley McKinney, Member	-	Waskada, Manitoba

Mr. Richard Loeb, Executive Director of The Farm Lands Ownership Board passed away August 24, 1988. The Board wishes to extend their sincere sympathy to the Loeb family.

ADMINISTRATION

Richard Loeb, Executive Director
R. Winters, Solicitor, Department of Attorney General

STAFF

H. Dale Osborne, Investigations Officer
Dorothy Nowicki, Administrative Assistant
Marian Ferens, Clerk

GENERAL

The Farm Lands Ownership Act was passed by the Legislature in 1983, and Proclaimed September 26, 1984.

The Administration of the Act involves the Board and administrative staff in all areas relating to the acquiring of an interest in farm land in Manitoba.

Certain categories of persons can acquire or hold an interest in Manitoba farm land without restriction or limitation. These include (a) a resident, (b) a family farm corporation (as defined in the Act), (c) a Municipality, (d) a local Government District; or (e) an agency of the Department. The Act is not retroactive.

Non residents can acquire an interest in Manitoba farm land if it is bequeathed to them by a Manitoba resident, a retired farmer, or the spouse of a retired farmer.

A retired farmer or his/her spouse or an active farmer or his/her spouse who has farmed for at least ten years, may also convey an interest in farm land to certain immediate relatives, even though these may be non residents.

BOARD ACTIVITIES

Under 3(3) of The Farm Lands Ownership Act, the Board has authority to exempt individuals, corporations, farm land or an interest in farm land, etc., from any provisions of the Legislation.

The Board met nine times between April 1, 1987 to March 31, 1988 to consider applications and exemptions. Three telephone conference meetings were also held.

One hundred and seventy-two applications for exemptions were considered by the Board. One hundred and sixty-two applications were approved while ten applications were denied. Farm land involved in the applications totalled 53,543 acres. Exemption approvals constituted 44,191 acres (82.5%).

Regulation 204/87 R includes Guidelines to assist the Board when considering applications for exemptions.

ADMINISTRATION

The 1987/88 year continued to be a demanding one for the Board and staff. Inquiries from individuals, law and real estate firms seeking information and assistance on the Legislation continue to be dealt with by the office.

Under the Real Property Act and Registry Act, transfers of land over five acres tendered for registration must be accompanied by a statutory declaration stating information pertinent to the transaction. These forms are forwarded to the Board office. In the period April 1, 1987 to March 31, 1988, the office received and processed 5,674 statutory declarations.

The Board office supplies data for statistical purposes to the Economic Analysis section. The acquisition of an office computer has improved the delivery of these data for this purpose.

SUMMARY

The administration and enforcement of The Farm Lands Ownership Act has continued smoothly as the public, Board and staff continue to become more familiar with the Legislation.

December 14, 1988